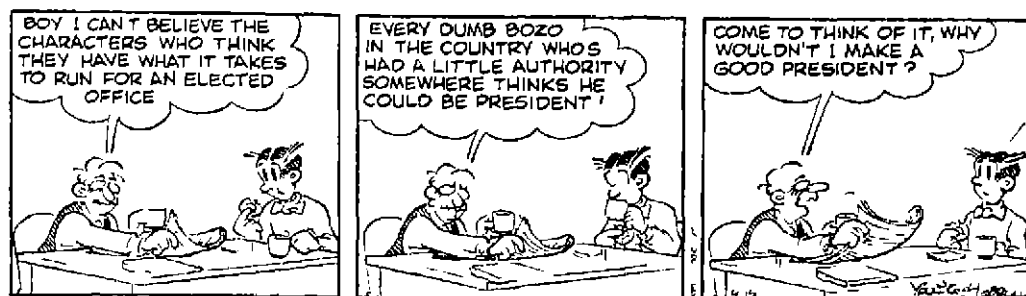


BLONDIE



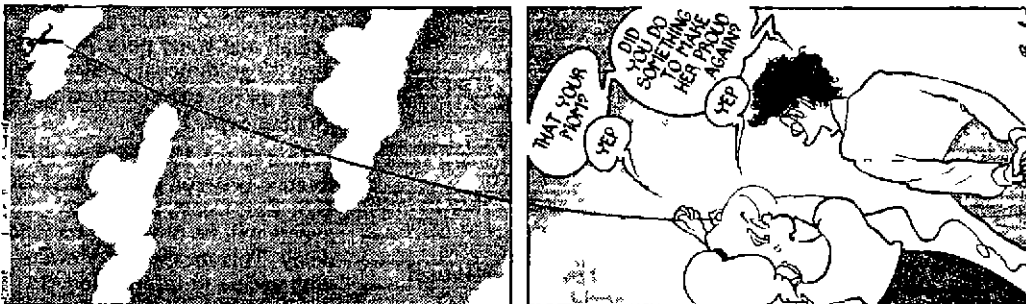
SALLY FORTH



THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



9 CHICKWEED LANE



JUMP START



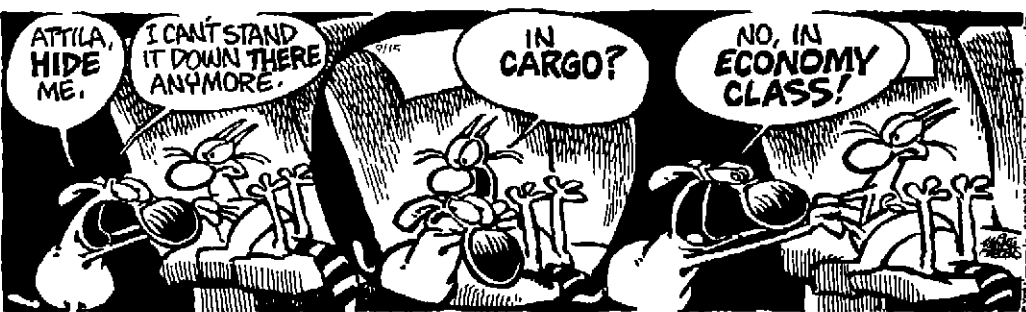
ROSE IS ROSE



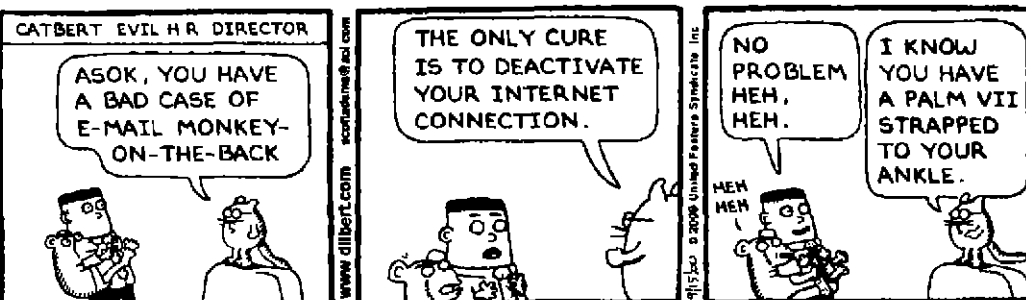
HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



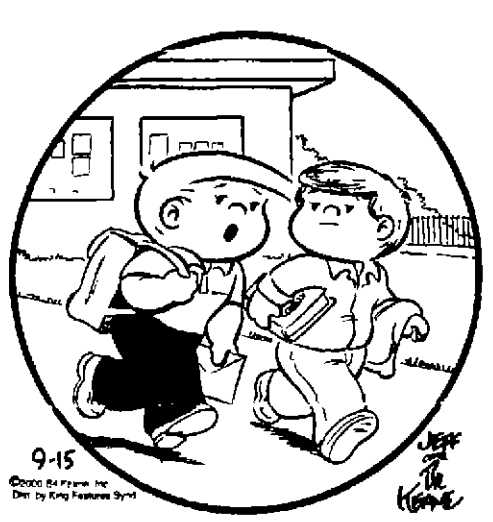
DILBERT



DENNIS THE MENACE



FAMILY CIRCUS



RHYMES WITH ORANGE



RALPH



Today's Birthdays

Bluesman Snooky Pryor is 79
Singer-musician Bobby Short is 76
Comedian Norm Crosby is 73
Actor Henry Darrow is 67
Baseball Hall-of-Famer Gaylord Perry is 62
Football Hall-of-Famer Merlin Olsen is 60
Opera singer Jessye Norman is 55
Actor Tommy Lee Jones is 54
Movie director Oliver Stone is 54
Football quarterback Dan Marino is 39

I NEED HELP



SCRABBLE

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U I E D N M L E T A P S V N E A H L Y

RACK 1

RACK 2

RACK 3

RACK 4

PAR SCORE 135-145 by JUDD

FOUR RACK TOTAL TIME LIMIT 20 MIN

DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each rack. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7 letter words get 50 point bonus. Words used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (1975 and Webster's and OSW Official Scrabble Words (1999) (Gambler's). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW 9-19-00 2000 United Feature Syndicate, Inc.

For solution, see Classified

WORD SLEUTH

THE GOOD AND THE BAD

A S A Y W U R P N L J H F D B
B Z W X V T R H T U O M D A B
A Q O E M K D K I I H F D B Z
D Y W V N L C T B R Q O N L E
L N G O O D H E A R T E D P F
U K A C I H A F H D B C O A I
C Z D L X W V B D C A H U S W
K A R Q D E T S A T D A B O D
B E Y B D O O G B O B A N M O
L L I W D O O G O K O J B I O
R A E Y D O O G H F Y E D B G

Thursday's unlisted clue: IOC

Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally. Friday's unlisted clue hint: FAREWELL.

Bad boy Bad luck Good-hearted Goodwill
Bad check Bad-mouth Good Hope Goody
Bad cold Bad news Goodland Goodyear
Bad habit Bad taste Goodwife

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For solution, see Classified

HOROSCOPE

For Saturday, Sept. 16, 2000

ARIES (March 21 to April 19) Strength and fortitude make anything you want to happen work in your favor.

TAURUS (April 20 to May 20) Getting caught up in the hustle and bustle isn't a wise maneuver, especially for your career.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 20) Good times are on their merry way and you are in just the right mood to catch the wave.

CANCER (June 21 to July 22) Covering your neck has suddenly become a top priority!

LEO (July 23 to Aug. 22) A competitive spirit might find you wanting to play the game but not always winning.

VIRGO (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) Feeling selfish? Others are more tolerant of you than you expect.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) On the home front, issues are bubbling up all over the place.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Leave no stone unturned when it comes to searching for errors.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Setting large goals gives you plenty of room to achieve your dreams.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) The workplace is just as hectic as your home, thus both require your attention equally.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) Perhaps you don't know the people you're working with as well as you thought.

PISCES (Feb. 19 to March 20) Authority issues and power struggles create problems.

ACES

By Bobby Wolff

South's jump to four clubs was a splinter raise promising solid values, excellent trump support and a singleton club. After Blackwood revealed no missing ace, North bid the slam.

In spades instead of diamonds. At six spades dummy's club ace won, and South ran dummy's trump 10, losing to West's jack. West exited in clubs but South ruffed and another losing trump finesse sent the slam one down.

Given the good spade intermediates, all that South needed for success was a reasonable suit break and a spade honor in the East hand. Nevertheless, the diamond slam would have fared better barring an unlikely spade lead by East. Against a normal club lead, North would win draw trumps and ruff a club. After cashing the king, queen and ace of hearts, North would lead a spade for a deep finesse against East. The finesse would lose to West's jack, but West would have no safe lead. A club lead would offer a ruff and sluff, and a spade lead would be equally suicidal. Moral? Money players play the slam in six diamonds, duplicate players will have company when they gamble on six spades.

WEST ♠ K J 3 ♣ 8 6 2 ♦ 5 4 ♠ K 8 7 5

EAST ♠ 10 9 8 ♣ A 7 5 ♦ A J 10 8 7 ♠ A 6

SOUTH ♠ A Q 7 6 5 ♣ K Q J ♦ K Q 9 2 ♠ 4

Vulnerable North South Dealer South

The bidding: South West North East 1♣ Pass 2♣ Pass 3♣ Pass 4♣ Pass 5♣ Pass 6♣ All pass

Splinter raise

Opening lead: Club king

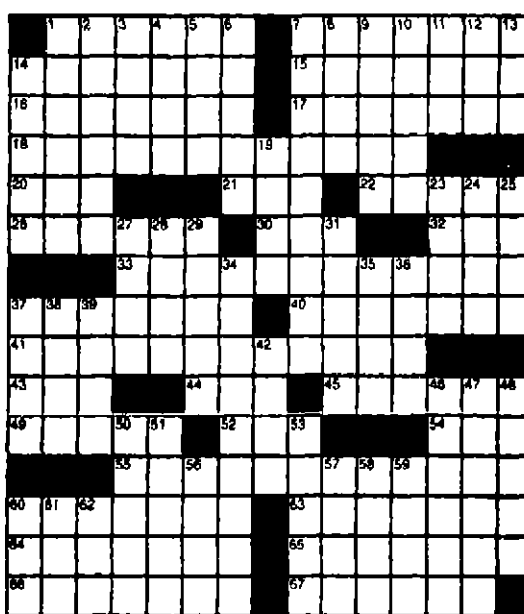
N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 0804

- ACROSS**
- Get comely
 - They're obviously happy
 - Gave drills to
 - Ship-to-shore handler
 - Good way to rest
 - Monteverdi opera
 - Incentive to buy tickets
 - First name among sex symbols
 - "Tonight Comes" (hit by the Cars)
 - Black
 - Grow every which way
 - It's like-like
 - Touch of frost
 - Whoosis
 - It may be fueled and driven
 - Like moonstones
 - Symbol of America
 - Emma player in "The Avengers"
 - Catch, so to speak
 - Cloverleaf part
 - Detection device
 - State since 1863
 - Gore Vidal's "Burr," e.g.
 - Cheap way to go
 - Item for a tyro on the slopes
 - Some roofs
 - Losing
 - It might be picked out
 - "With Reagan" author
 - Some N.S.A. employees
- DOWN**
- "Huh-uh"
 - Kind of egg
 - Cottontail's tail
 - Archaic preposition
 - Actor Cobb
 - They were written in Old Norse
 - Car halter
 - Frontier figure
 - Cry before taking off
 - Mazda model
 - No short time
 - Cartoon dog
 - Lady of Sp
 - Composes
 - Sigma (fraternity men)
 - B'rich
 - Depict
 - It has a guarded tip
 - Grass bsnles
 - "Wait just a minute"
 - Lights
 - Pl. ver. red dent
 - Create stinking sentences?
 - Pitching coach Johnny
 - N.Y. Met, e.g.
 - They won't get off the ground
 - "Hot Diggity" singer

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

EMILYPOST IRISH
GAMETABLE TENTO
GRANDSLAM ASSES
AGGY TAI SLEEVE
RESALE NOHITTER
ARG PACT
GOLFINGONE LINT
ADULT PEN AETNA
HAMM TOUCHDOWN
SOLI PAM
HATTRICK SEAHAG
IMARET YAH DOME
PIXEL DOUBLERUN
PILES ITSTABLAST
QUESTE POTROASTS



Puzzle by Jim Page

39 Midwest land
42 1889 Vice President
P Morton

46 One who suspends an action at law
47 Unlikely donors
48 Oater assemblage
50 Agatha Christie's "There Is..."
51 First name in talk shows

53 Jellied garnish
56 They're picked in Hawaii
57 It's harvested in Hawaii
58 Darius
59 Passing

60 Jazzman Koffman
61 Like some candidates Abbr.
62 Miss Saigon setting

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch-tone phone 1-800-420-5656 (95¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years 1-888-7 ACROSS